ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A magnetic recording medium is provided with a substrate, and a magnetic layer made of a CoCr-based alloy and having a multi-layer structure and disposed above the substrate. The multi-layer structure has a first magnetic layer disposed above the substrate and at least one second magnetic layer disposed on the first magnetic layer on an opposite side from the substrate. The first magnetic layer has a Cr-content larger than that of the second magnetic layer, and has a larger sum total content of nonmagnetic elements which are other than Cr and have a larger atomic radius than Co than the second magnetic layer.